

publications covering the more common species of the region and the advanced texts which are difficult to use for the person without considerable training in botany." The area covered is Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks as well as Yosemite National Park.

Ferns, grasses, sedges, rushes, and many other plants are omitted. The inclusion of taxa from beyond the limits of the parks is confusing as ranges of distribution are ignored. Mention of some species (*Adenostoma sparsifolium*, *Chamaesaracha nana*, *Eschscholzia elegans*, *Oxytheca perfoliata*, *Pedicularis densiflora*, *Penstemon centranthifolius*) which must be excessively rare or nonexistent in the region covered, should have been documented with herbarium vouchers. *Anisocoma acaulis*, normally expected east of the Sierra and in Kern Valley to the south, is said to occur along the western approaches to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

The sequence of families follows no known order and many plants (*Aesculus*, *Cornus nuttallii*, *Dicentra*, *Eriogonum*, *Eschscholzia*, *Iris*, *Kelloggia*, *Mahonia*, *Platystemon*) cannot be identified because of ambiguities in the keys. Some other species are keyed but not described or described but not keyed. Pusateri has relied upon Jepson's *A Manual of the Flowering Plants of California* (1925) "as the final authority for most of the scientific names . . ."

The black and white photos scattered through the text are excellent. The species shown in 21 of the 66 color photos also are represented by line drawings even though common plants (corn lily, chinquapin, poison oak, mountain misery, cow parsnip, arrowleaf groundsel (arrowhead butterweed), common bracken, staghorn lichen) are not illustrated. About 38 per cent of the species included are illustrated and these illustrations probably will be helpful to those who have no knowledge of plants since almost nothing else is available of local coverage for the Sequoia and Kings region.—WALLACE R. ERNST, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

NOTES AND NEWS

A NEW LOCALITY FOR *ASPLENIUM VESPERTINUM*.—The fern *Asplenium vespertinum* Maxon has been reported for the San Gabriel Mountains, the San Bernardino Mountains, and from San Rafael, Baja California. Its appearance in the more northerly Santa Monica Mountains may indicate that it is more widespread than formerly suspected. A very small single colony was found on a rock outcropping at Sherwood Lake, Ventura County, California, in March, 1963 under an overhanging sandstone rock ledge with a northern exposure (*Joe s.n.*, Oct. 20, 1963, DS, LA). The ferns, which were but a few inches tall, were growing in moist rather silty soil and protected in front with clumps of *Dryopteris arguta*. *Adiantum jordanii*, *Dryopteris arguta*, and *Pityrogramma triangularis* were abundant in the vicinity. Less common were *Cheilanthes californica* and *Polypodium californicum*.—BARBARA JOE, University of California, Los Angeles, and Los Angeles City College.